



Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Water Quality Coordinating Committee Water Pollution Control Program

Minutes

March 16, 2004

WATER QUALITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

DNR Conference Complex
1738 E. Elm
Roaring River Conference Room
Jefferson City, Missouri

March 16, 2004
10:00 a.m.

MEETING AGENDA

Evaluating Projects for Success, Bob Ball, NRCS

Missouri's Nonpoint Source Management Plan: Recent and Future Revisions,
Steve Bauguess, DNR, Water Protection Program

Status of Planned Revisions to Missouri Water Quality Standards,
Phil Schroeder, DNR, Water Protection Program

Other

319 Grant Funds

Resource Tools & Techniques supporting Successful Watersheds: A Workshop

Agency Activities

Meetings & Conferences

MISSOURI WATER QUALITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

March 16, 2004

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1738 E. Elm
Roaring River Conference Room
Jefferson City, Missouri

MINUTES

Attendees:

Becky Shannon	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB	Charles Hays	DNR/GSRAD/WRP
Caitlyn Peel	HBA St. Louis	Michael Bollinger	Ameren
Georganne Bowman	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB	Ken Struemp	DNR/Soil & Water Conservation Pgm
Colleen Meredith	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB	Bob Hentges	MO Public Utility Alliance
Jack Dutra	JD Info Services/Syngenta	Tom Herrmann	Clean Water Commission
Tom Clevenger	UMC	John Lodderhose	St. Louis MSD
Dan Crosby	UMC	Stacia Bax	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB
Jeannette Schafer	EPA Region VII	Gail Wilson	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB
Ryan Milhollin	UMC	Phil Schroeder	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB
Pete Davis	EPA Region VII	Verel Benson	UMC-FAPRI
Bart Hawcroft	Dept. of Agriculture	Cory Ridenhour	MO Forest Products Association
Cindy DiStefano	MDC	Dorris Bender	City of Independence
Priscilla Stotts	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB	Trent Stober	Midwest Env. Consultants
Anne Peery	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB	Angel Kruzen	Water Sentinel, Sierra Club
Steve Bauguess	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB	Denise Evans	DNR/Director's Office
Bob Ball	USDA-NRCS	Robert Brundage	Newman, Comley & Ruth
Cindy Wolken	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB	Darlene Schaben	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB
Sharon Clifford	DNR/Water Protection Program WPB		

Introductions were made.

Becky announced that Sharon Clifford will retire the end of March.

Evaluating Projects for Success, Bob Ball, NRCS PowerPoint presentation

Bob reported that he has served on several different project review committees reviewing watershed management plans to determine if they would achieve their water quality purpose at a reasonable cost. Questions are still out there about the long-term evaluation -- How do you know when you are finished with the project? How do you know if you were successful? What is success?

While doing research, Bob found that having this information available would be helpful for reviewers as well as applicants and bravely accepted the challenge of this task. Not knowing the answers to the questions was a challenge in itself. This is a work in progress. He received good feedback from some reviewers, more information was added and it has now become a PowerPoint presentation instead of a tri-fold brochure. Bob asked the group for feedback within the next couple of weeks in order to make this a better project and eventually get the product into the hands of people who really need it. This is a team effort.

Watershed planning involves people, planning, implementing the plan and evaluating for success. Watershed evaluation involves more than water quality monitoring. Achieving success can be a long complex process. There is more to a project than monitoring. Evaluation involves systematically collecting a variety of

information over time. Long-term vs. short-term evaluation can be looked at. Long-term would be looking at changes in ecological health and recovery of endangered species, which is a long, drawn out, complex process. If the multiple dimension process is used, you would measure social capital, institutional changes and progression of trends of accomplishment over time. This process allows for both short-term and long-term evaluation. Project success begins with setting realistic and measurable goals and objectives. The evaluation process is review of the completed goals and objectives.

Bob said that sometimes the focus gets lost. The process begins with planning. Local citizens develop plans in partnership with government and other stakeholders. The plans are developed to identify resource protection or water quality improvement as major goals and include specific actions to achieve those goals. A quality plan should include techniques to measure success. Project evaluation depends on the extent to which measurable goals and objectives have been met and the revisions to the original plan. An effective watershed management plan identifies water quality impairments, describes actions to meet state water quality standards and describes the future vision of the watershed. Bob explained what should be included in an effective Watershed Management Plan. Lack of community support is a common barrier. Ways to measure success include on-the-ground outcomes, political and activity outcomes and predicted outcomes. Communities spell success by increased use of skills and knowledge of local people; strengthened relationships and communications; improved community initiative, responsibility and adaptability; diverse and healthy economy; sustainable, healthy ecosystems and multiple community benefits. Chemical, physical and biological monitoring should also be looked at. The watershed plan should include dates, locations, water quality parameters and sampling methods and equipment used to explain how the plan will be carried out. On-the-ground outcomes can be measured by looking at before and after measurements which could include changes of average annual soil loss, stream flow characteristics, estimates of sediment and nutrient load reduction, etc. Look at what is on the ground now and what it will look like in the future conditions. Problem sites could also be included. Bob mentioned he didn't see many proposals with social and human indicators of change. He explained how this could be accomplished. The information and education component should also be looked at. Predicting outcomes can be determined by using models.

Bob asked the group to let him know of any tips or suggestions that might come to mind to make this better. A comment was made that this would be a very good tool for watershed groups. Bob said that NRCS is attempting to use quantification in several practices.

Missouri's Nonpoint Source Management Plan: Recent and Future Revisions, Steve Bauguess, DNR, Water Protection Program

The Nonpoint Source Management Plan contains a lot of important information. The plan serves as a blueprint for mitigation of nonpoint source pollution to further the protection of aquatic resources for current and future generations. The original plan was developed and approved by EPA in 1989. The current edition was approved by EPA in June 2000. The revisions to the plan follow a schedule. Verbal approval was recently received on the 2003 revision with a letter forthcoming. Steve said the document with revisions would soon be available on the web. In the Year 4 revisions, Steve said they need to look at evaluating the success of the plan and if they have achieved the goals and objectives. Section III, Goals and Objectives, will need to be looked at. This section contains strategic plans for all resource partners. He asked that the partners look at this section that was developed five years ago and see if the information needs updated. Section VIII also needs evaluated.

As an evaluation measure, the NPS Unit has developed a worksheet (annual report worksheet) to solicit information from 319, 604(b) and 104(b) subgrantees. This reporting will be a requirement for all FY03 and future subgrantee agreements to show what they hope to accomplish with the project and what has been accomplished. This information will be compiled in an annual report to EPA.

Steve asked the group to look at Sections III and VIII for the next Nonpoint Source Management Plan revisions. He said that tangible results are needed, how and to whom are these results being reported and what types of coordination efforts can be made to improve the way financial and technical assistance is being used. Any input can be sent to Steve or Darlene.

To eliminate double counting, Steve asked that reporting be only on what the program has spent.

Status of Planned Revisions to Missouri Water Quality Standards, Phil Schroeder, DNR, Water Protection Program

The scope of the rulemaking is based on three efforts. In September 2000, a letter was received from EPA outlining some program deficiencies that needed to be addressed in the water quality standards. There are eight deficiencies that are part of the rulemaking effort. There are also 16 claims in a lawsuit by Coalition of the Environment pending against EPA on Missouri's water quality standards. The department is trying to address these in the rulemaking as well as some other issue identified by the department.

Whole body contact recreation is an issue that continues to be discussed. The deficiency is that Missouri's regulations on water quality standards do not properly identify all classified waters of the state as being fishable and swimmable or do not have a use attainable analysis (UAA). These two issues are reasons that a written draft is not yet available. However, progress is being made where possible.

The schedule for rulemaking is for a proposed rule to be published by July 15, 2004. Phil said they wanted to extend the public comment period to more than 60 days after publication in the Missouri Register. A Final Order of Rulemaking would then be effective in July 2005.

Two issues that the program wants to get started on are developing procedures for doing a Use Attainability Analysis and the Antidegradation Rule. The program will be coordinating a stakeholder group to ask for input on these. Information will be gathered from other states and EPA to present to the stakeholders at the meeting. There are still questions about who will actually be doing the UAA, department staff or permit holders, and when will they be done.

EPA has requested the department to develop further guidance and procedures on the Antidegradation Rule. The stakeholder group will also be asked to assist with this task. Phil hoped to have the group together and invitation out within the next month. Information will also be posted on the web site.

Phil was asked about the implementation schedule. He said this is an area where guidance would be requested from the Clean Water Commission. In answer to another question Phil said they are aware of the interest and are not opposed to the idea of a multi-tiered recreational use classification system.

A major issue that continues to be looked at with EPA and CWC is the issue of rebuttable presumption. That is, EPA has stated that all waters must meet a presumptive use of fishable/swimmable. Having a secondary contact use may or may not necessarily meet the need for rebuttable presumption. Options include setting an aggressive schedule for doing the UAAs before the Final Order of Rulemaking or set a schedule for after the rule goes into effect whereby there is a grace period by which UAAs are conducted. Discussion was held in regard to how other states handled UAAs. Commissioner Herrmann felt that based on a simplified analysis, the department should have enough data and by field observations to determine if a stream should have the whole body contact recreational use.

Robert Hentges and Angel Kruzen requested to be included in the stakeholder group. The procedures would not be included as part of the rule.

Other

319 Grant RFP, Colleen Meredith

The Request for Proposals for 319 funding has been sent out. The application can be found on the Water Protection Program's web site. Pre-proposals are due April 5. This allows an opportunity for staff to review your application and give comments and feedback. A Grant Training will be held May 12. Applications are due July 1. The review committee will meet on August 17 with the applicants. The proposed ranking of the projects would be submitted to the Clean Water Commission for approval in September or October. The application for 319 funding would then be submitted in November or December. Funding would be available in Fall of 2005. Preference would be given to waters on the 303(d) list. Load reduction is a big factor. Incremental funding would be given to those projects that are on the 303(d) list and have a watershed management plan. Base funding can be used for other types of projects. All projects have to have education and outreach. Federal agencies are eligible but match cannot be federal.

Resource Tools and Techniques Conference, Colleen Meredith (handouts: conference brochure, agenda)

The conference will be held April 24-25 at Capital Plaza in Jefferson City. The Soil & Water Conservation Society and University of Missouri-Columbia are the hosts. It is a watershed conference for all watershed planners. It shows all tools that someone might use for developing a watershed management plan. There will be technical information on where to go for assistance. Bob Ball has been instrumental in arranging speakers. The web site is listed on the brochure. There are approximately 115 registered. Chris Bromley is handling the registrations. There will be an evening session at the end of the first day with presenters showing their products or information. Lois Reborne, Bryant Watershed Atlas, will do an interactive demonstration on how to do a web site. Colleen recommended all to attend because it will be a great conference.

303(d) Methodology Rule Status, Phil Schroeder

The Methodology Rule was published in the Missouri Register with public comment period ending February 11, 2004. A proposal for Final Order of Rulemaking was presented to Clean Water Commission (CWC) at the March 10 meeting. The CWC asked staff to go back and discuss with stakeholders the continued concerns with respect to how the 303(d) listing and the methodology works. Phil felt that the document should have been made more available at the beginning of the rulemaking process. A group consisting of those who commented on the rule and interested parties will be convened to discuss any concerns then resubmit the document to the CWC. A decision needs to be made before April 11 in order to get the rulemaking to the Joint Committee of Administrative Rules. A special convened meeting (i.e., conference call) with the CWC would be necessary.

Becky stated that the 303(d) list rule would follow this rule.

In response to a question, Commissioner Herrmann stated that the 2004 303(d) list would be distributed when it's available. Becky stated that typically an early step is to place the current list on a public notice, to solicit new data and information.

Commissioner Herrmann said that the Proposed Order of Rulemaking was turned down by the CWC because of lack of review time of Methodology Listing Document. Time is needed to consider, evaluate and provide input prior to submitting the document for a rulemaking.

Becky suggested adding the 2004 listing and the methodology rule status to the agenda for the next meeting.

A request was made to notify the group when the CWC conference call is scheduled.

Agency Activity

Jeanette Schafer passed out an organizational chart since EPA has reorganized. She explained which activities were new and which were combined. The intent of the reorganization is to get more integration programs to do more watershed planning. She also announced that the RFP is out for the Wetland Program Development Grant. It can be found on the web at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/grantguidelines/>. Eligible entities include states, tribes, local government, interstate agencies and national nonprofit non-governmental organizations. She mentioned that the SWANCC decision has put a higher priority on state water quality standards for wetlands.

Anne Peery reported that the "What watershed do you live in?" link is now on DNR's homepage on the web. She also announced that a follow-up meeting on the James River TMDL is scheduled for April 20 in Nixa at 7:00 p.m. Ask Anne for more details.

Bob Ball encouraged those attending the Watershed Conference to attend Terry Barney's session on watershed mapping. Bob met last week with the Corps of Engineers' Memphis District. They are interested in doing planning activities in the St. Francois River Basin. Funding is available but they need the match dollars, which can be federal, state or local dollars. This is part of the White River Basin Comprehensive Study. If you have ideas, let Bob know.

Becky recognized that this is Sharon's last WQCC meeting as she is retiring at the end of March. She acknowledged that Sharon has contributed a lot over the last several years and thanked her for all her assistance.

Sharon Clifford mentioned the Region 7 Environmental Conference in Kansas City will be held April 20-21.

Charles Hays mentioned that the draft Eastern Missouri Water Use Report is now available for public comment. There is a 30-day comment period. It can be found on the web at: <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/geology/wrp/wr62.htm>. It will be published later this summer. They will also be publishing an Executive Summary, an Analysis and a combination of all five water use reports.

Gail Wilson reported that the Second Nicholson Creek draft TMDL is on Public Notice and available for public comment. It can be found on the web at: <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/wpscd/wpcp/tmdl/wpc-tmdl-pn-second-nicholson.htm>.

Verel Benson mentioned that FAPRI has recently spent a lot of time on a modeling project and offered assistance with modeling projects.

Dorris Bender said the Missouri Water Environment Association's annual conference is being held March 20-23 at Tan-Tar-A.

Denise Evans reported that the first Lewis & Clark signature event was held in St. Louis last weekend. The next event is scheduled in May in St. Charles with the next one being over July 4 weekend in Kansas City. She suggested people attend one of these events as they are spectacular. Exhibit space is still available. There will be other community events along the river. This would be an opportunity to meet the community people. Earth Day activities are scheduled for April 23 in Jefferson City. The Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery exhibit is in Springfield that week. Other Earth Day festivities are scheduled in St. Louis.

Caitlyn Peel announced the St. Louis Earth Day activities are scheduled at the Botanical Gardens on April 22-23. The focus is on green development.

Bob Ball announced the International Erosion Control Association's national meeting to be held March 25-26 at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Demonstrations on erosion and sediment control will be on Friday.

Philips Tract, Trent Stober

Trent attended the March 15 City Council meeting in Columbia and suggested this topic be discussed here. He felt this decision may have set a precedent for Columbia. Philips Tract is approximately 490 acres. When traveling north on Highway 63 to Columbia, it is the lake to the west between the Williams Pipeline Company and Columbia. The developer is Elvin Sapp.

Runoff from that tract goes into Gans and Clear creeks which form the Little Bonne Femme in Rock Bridge State Park. The city is being asked for a voluntary annexation. Approximately 150 acres would be a city park. Approximately 40 acres is a reservoir which would be donated to the city. Trent has been working with this project for about a year. They have done biological water quality analysis, hydrologic modeling and studies of stream morphology. They had four automatic sampling stations around the area last spring and summer collecting base flow and storm flow samples. He feels this tract will be a showcase for an environmental sensitive development. Almost all best management practices will be used, including low impact development. Swales, wetlands, sedimentation basins and off-site BMPs to address off-site sources of water quality pollution are proposed. Some of the water quality commitments made include during the construction phase they recommended following the conditions within the general permit and in and around the state resource waters. On the hydrology side, they committed to reducing the current peak for frequent storms and in 2-year and more frequent storms they plan to reduce the peak runoff from the site. During storms greater than that, the current model peak will not be exceeded. However, that wasn't enough for the Council to support the project. They've committed to water quality performance standards from the site. For the major discharge from the site, they've committed in the zoning ordinance to meet appropriate acute criteria for a whole host of parameters, including heavy metals. That was based on a general water-water fishery and a very low hardness level. They also agreed to a phosphorus criteria in the lake of 50 micrograms per liter based on baseline studies done last year. The opposition threw out a criteria of 10 micrograms per liter. The opposition was very effective. The other big issue was the opposition didn't like the adaptive management, which Trent had to explain.

This was the fifth public hearing with over 300 attendees which lasted over five hours. Approval was received. The main point into getting annexation into the city was to get wastewater service. This could have been developed in the county with current zoning to have 1500 residences on it. Trent didn't see how the department could have not allowed a discharge into that segment of streams. He felt the opposition would have been locally disappointed in ten years if this development wasn't approved. Sierra Club and individual who lived around the development were the opposition.

Gans Creek is an Outstanding State Resource Water and probably has the worst water in the Columbia area.

Bob Ball was impressed by the level of knowledge, expertise and awareness of those participating in the hearing. It would be a huge accomplishment if that could be done throughout the state.

Meetings and Conferences

Early 2004	NRCS planning a 3-day course on area-wide conservation planning, depending on interest
March	21-23 Missouri Water Environment Association meeting, Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach
	24-25 Watershed Tools and Resources Workshop at Capital Plaza, Jefferson City
	25-26 International Erosion Control Association's spring meeting, Boone County Fairgrounds

April	20	James River TMDL follow-up meeting, Nixa, 7:00 p.m.
	20-21	EPA Region 7 Environmental Symposium, Fairmont Hotel, Kansas City
	22-23	St. Louis Earth Day, St. Louis
	23	Earth Day festivities, Jefferson City
May	10-12	Joint training for water quality management between University of Missouri and University of Illinois
June	1-4	EPA's National Community Involvement conference in Denver, Colorado
August	2-6	North Fork Project presents "Watersheds Concepts and Curriculum Review," Stoutsville